



National Weather Service 2nd Quarter Review 2001

June 1, 2001

Action Item
Checklist

Milestones &
Accomplishments

Management
Challenges,
Issues,
Problems

Reports

Compliance

EEO

Diversity

Upcoming

Action Items

Review

Status

Action Item

2nd, 2000

Ongoing

Coordinate with NOS about site for
Key West WFO

1st, 2000

Completed

Distribute IG Inspection Reports on
Raleigh, NC and San Angelo, TX to
all line offices

1st, 2000

Completed

Identify potential issues surrounding
the relocation of Central Region
Headquarters

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2nd Quarter Milestones

Deliver Better Products and Services

- ✓ **Complete trial runs of weather services for the 2002 Olympic Games**
- ✓ **Update the current NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) plan to identify high risk areas and prioritize areas lacking NWR coverage**
- ✓ **Begin web-based data collection for snow spotters and cooperative observers**
- ✓ **Begin centralized collection and distribution of NEXRAD radar data**
- ✓ **Produce a Day 1 and Day 2 convective outlook in probabilistic format**
- ✓ **Conduct a best practice review at WFOs and RFCs in the Central and Eastern Regions**
- ✓ **Establish an aviation collaborative forecasting effort at Dallas/Fort Worth, TX WFO**



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2nd Quarter Milestones

Deliver Better Products and Services

- ✓ Develop aviation training plan for NWS forecasters
- ✓ Conduct Aviation Product Development Partnership Workshop
- ✓ Implement graphical 96-hour wave period and dominant wave direction forecast
- ✓ Complete assessment of FY 2000 fire weather services
- ✓ Complete interagency review of U.S. wildland fire policy
- ✓ Define user requirements for seasonal fire weather guidance
- ✓ Implement web-based system for fire weather spot forecasts
- ✓ Complete evaluation of the Southern Region River Forecast Center 24hrs/7day operations



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2nd Quarter Milestones

Capitalize on Scientific and Technological Advances

- ✓ Establish Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation
- ✓ Complete study of the January 2000 East Coast snow storm

Exercise Global Leadership

- Complete bilateral agreements with Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and Vietnam
- ✓ Install EMWIN receivers in Chuuk, Yap, and Palau
- ✓ Host 4 visiting Chinese scientists in the Office of Science and Technology



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2nd Quarter Milestones

Change the NWS Organizational Culture

- ✓ Implement new web-based numerical weather prediction training
- ✓ Provide WSR-88D Distant Learning Operations training for 75 new field forecasters
- ✓ Complete focused winter weather training at 5 Eastern Region offices
- Form Quality of Worklife Committee
- ✓ Participate in the NOAA Graduate Scientist Program
- Establish a minority mentoring program to identify career advancement opportunities
- ✓ Participate in the Jackson State University “Expanding Opportunities” Conference



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2nd Quarter Milestones

Manage NWS Resources

- ✓ **Complete transition of the Regional networks from AT&T-FTS 2000 to MCI-FTS 2001**

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2nd Quarter Accomplishments

Forecasting/Support

- **Forecasted Red River Flood Using AHPS**
- **Provided Support and Forecasts for Florida Drought /Fires**
- **Forecasted Snowy Nor'easter**
- **Spring Outlook Issued**



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2nd Quarter Accomplishments

Programmatic/Organizational

- **NWS Receives Straight As**
- **NWS Employees Honored by American Meteorological Society**
- **Congressional Staff Visits Sterling WFO**
- **Began Publishing NWS Focus**
- **Began Operational Training of Meteorologists from National Meteorological Services of Small Island States**
- **Lake Carriers Association Presented 2001 Millennium Award to Cleveland WFO**
- **NWS Signs Agreement to Improve Vietnamese River Flood Forecasts**



Congressional, GAO, and IG Reports

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Congressional Reports

- **Cooperative Observer Network**

GAO Reports

- **USAID**
- **U.S. Assistance to Micronesia and Marshall Islands**
- **Major Management Challenges**

OIG Reports

- **WFO Inspections**
- **NWS Weather Observer Program**
- **National Data Buoy Center**
- **NOAA Weather Radio**

Open NWS Environmental / Safety Audit Findings - 2nd Quarter FY 2001

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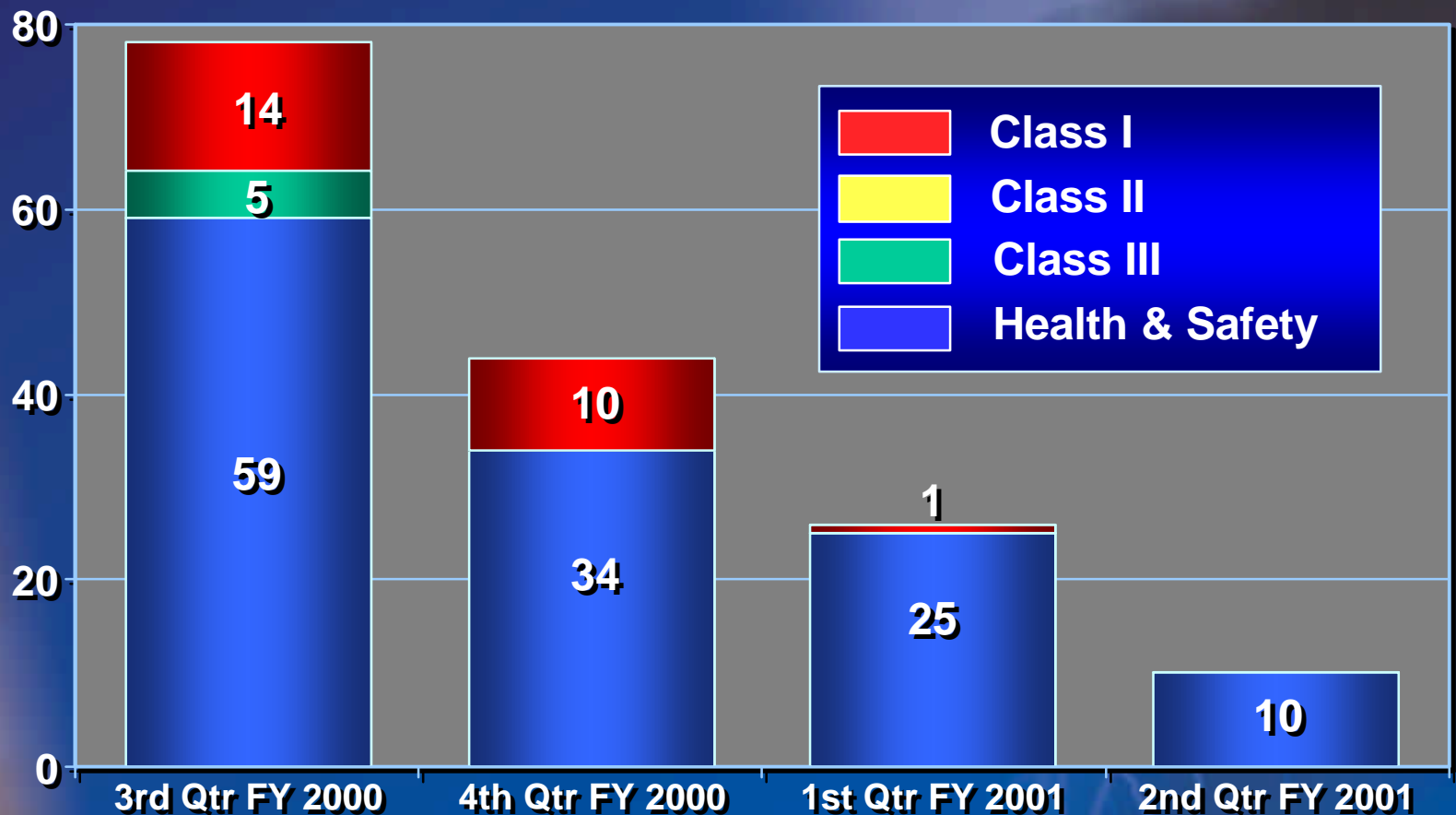
Compliance

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Open Findings



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EEO Accomplishments

EEO Programs & Recruitment

- ✓ **Conducted 136 Community Outreach Activities**
 - ✓ *Organized and Participated in Minority Observance Events*
 - ✓ *Provided Special NOAA Weather Radios to Deaf Families*
- ✓ **Recruited at Minority Serving Institutions (MSI)**
- ✓ **Participated in the Work Activity Program**

EEO Training

- ✓ **Conducted EEO Training for Manager and Supervisors**
- ✓ **Disability Training Conducted at NCEP**

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Diversity Accomplishments

- ✓ Finalized Plan for Flexi-Place Pilot Program
- ✓ Began Coordinating SFA 2001 with NOAA Office of Diversity
- ✓ Participated in 3 New NOAA Diversity Committees

Regional Accomplishments

- ✓ Tucson WFO Assisted Tohono O'odham Nation in Flood Planning Efforts
- ✓ 3-Day Diversity Training Conducted at Eastern Region Headquarters
- ✓ Team Building Training Workshops Held in Pacific Region



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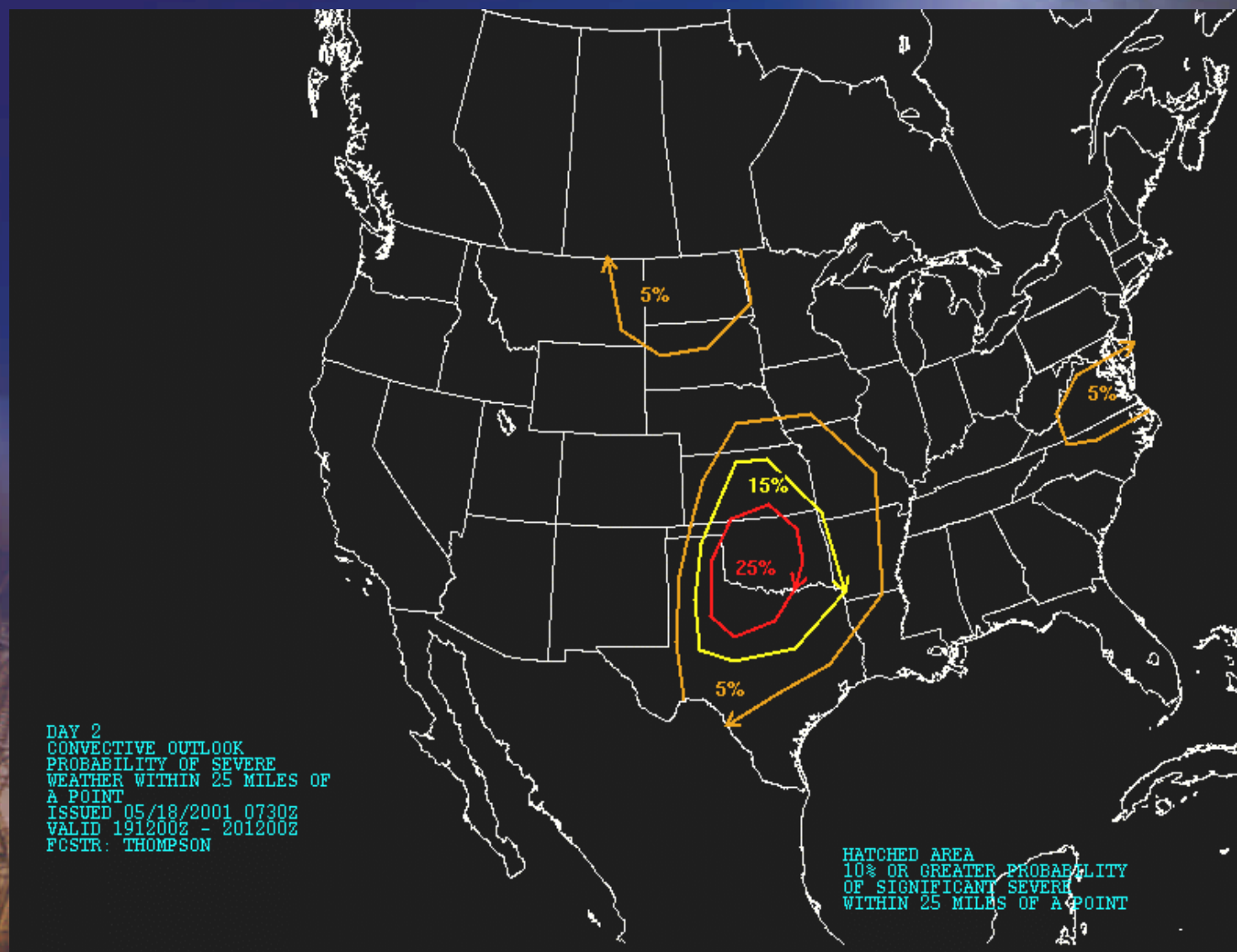
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Upcoming Activities (3rdQtr.)

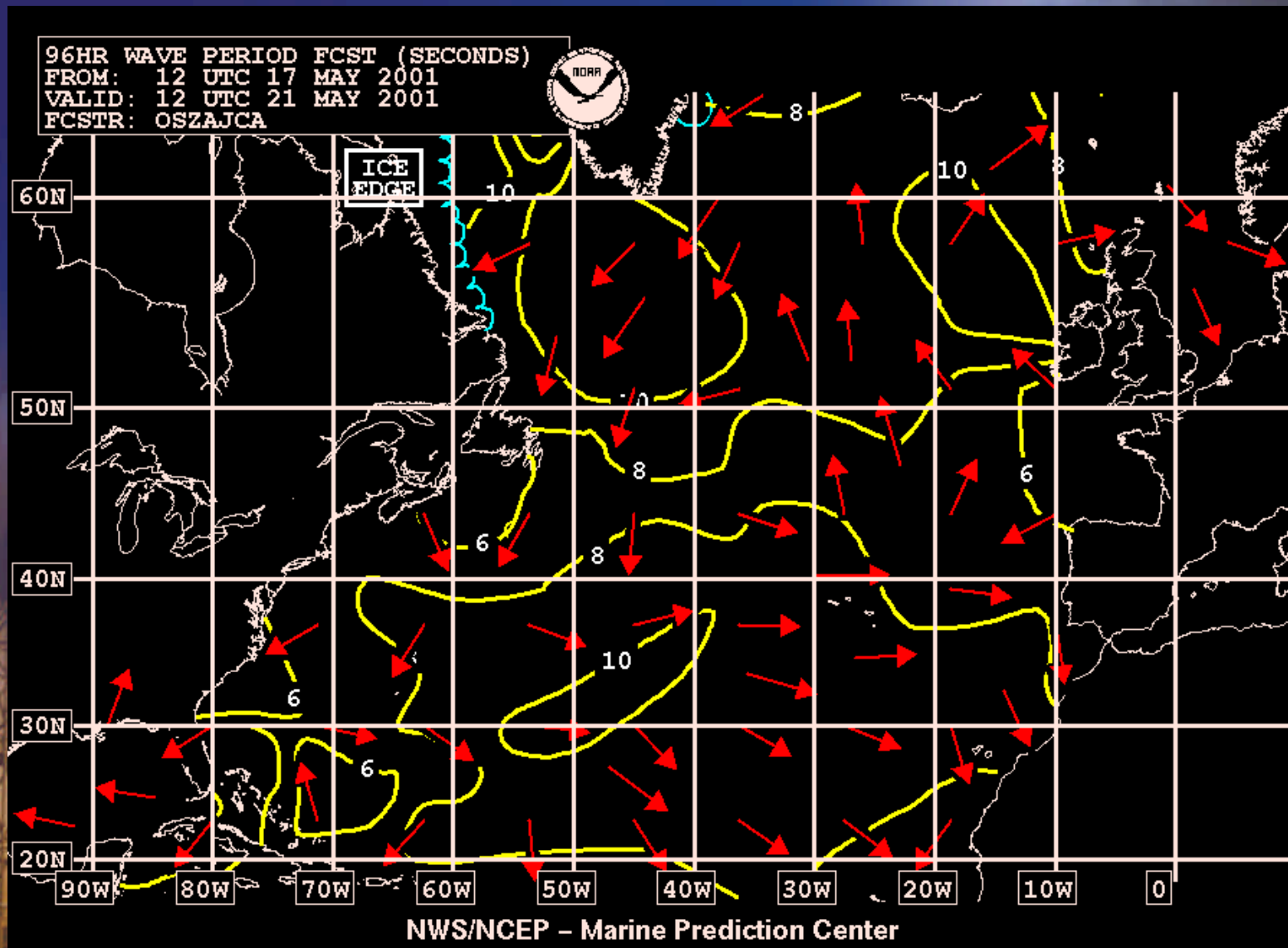
- **Establish the NWS “TsunamiReady” Program**
- **Hold Hurricane Awareness Week**
- **Implement 24-Hour Operation of the Aviation Weather Center’s Collaborative Convection Forecast Product**
- **Complete NWS Science & Technology Infusion Plan**
- **Make Ensemble Model Forecasts Available to NWS Forecasters in Real Time**
- **Conduct 1st Training Course for Commercial Pilots on Volcanic Ash Avoidance**
- **Conduct a Hurricane Awareness Tour to Caribbean Countries and Mexico**



Probabilistic Convective Outlook



96 Hr Peak Wave Period/Direction



Fire Weather Spot Forecasts

- Efficient for Fire Agencies to request Spot
- Customer able to track status of request
- Significantly faster dissemination

Pocatello Fire Weather Spot Request - Netscape

File Edit Show Go Communication Help

Back Forward Reload Home Search Bookmarks Location: http://198.177.162.51/cgi-bin/wspol/spotform/site-ph

RealPlayer National Weather

POCATELLO SPOT FORECAST REQUEST

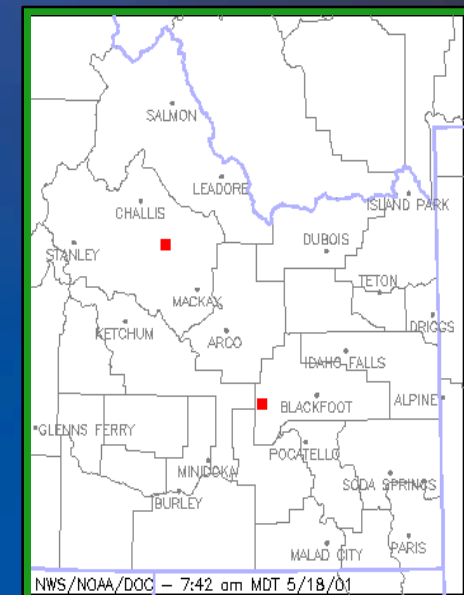
Required Elements in RED

PROJECT NAME		REQUESTING AGENCY	
Project Name:		Requesting Agency:	
<input type="radio"/> Wildfire	<input type="radio"/> WPU	Phone Number:	
<input type="radio"/> Prescribed Fire		FAX Number:	
Ignition Time: 06:00	<input type="radio"/> Min	Contact Person:	
Date: 5/18/01			

LOCATION		FUEL	
Legal (T/R):	<input type="radio"/> Top <input type="radio"/> Bottom	Type:	
Either Legal OR Loc. Request		Sheltering:	
Lat:		<input type="radio"/> Full	
Lon:		<input type="radio"/> Partial	
7.5' Quad:		<input type="radio"/> Unsheltered	
Elevation:			
Drainage:			
Aspect:			
Size:			
(Acres)			

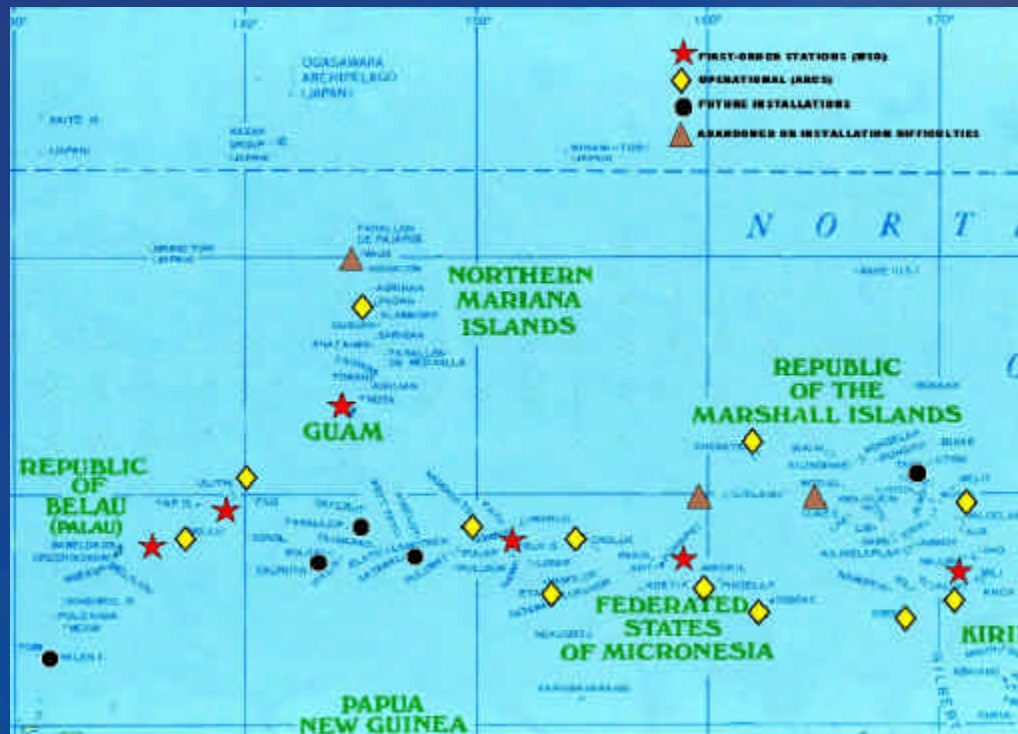
OBSERVATIONS								
Place	Elev	Time	Wind	Temp	Wetbulb	RH	Dewpt	Sky/Weather

Document Done



EMWIN Receivers

- EMWIN Receivers Now At All NWS Stations in Pacific
- EMWIN Receivers Are Alternate Source of Weather Forecasts/Warnings

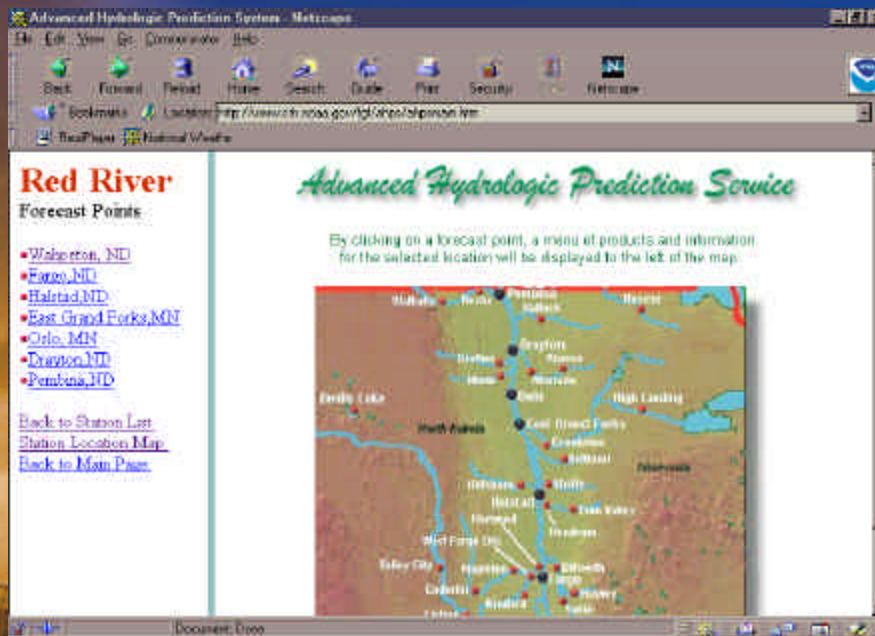


Web-Based NWP Training



Red River Flood

- Wahpeton, ND
- Flood stage for Wahpeton: 10'
- March: AHPS predicted 70% probability of Red River reaching 17'



- April: Red River crested at 17'
- Information used by city of Wahpeton and Corp of Engineers to provide flood protection to 18'
- Mitigated damages

Florida Drought/Fires

- 2000 was Florida's Driest Year on record
- Since Jan 1, 2001:
 - **> 2898 Fires**
 - **> 266,000 Acres**
 - **84 Red Flag Warnings**
- NWS Provided 24-Hour Support:
 - **Special Forecasts**
 - **On-Site Forecasts by IMETs**



Snowy Nor'easter

- **March 5-7, 2001**
- **> 40 inches of Snow Reported in SE New Hampshire**
- **Massachusetts & Connecticut Declared State of Emergencies**
- **Average Lead Times 30-42 Hours Common**
- **Forecasts Issued March 2-3 for March 5-6 Snow – Modified to Show Later Onset of Snow**
- **Early Forecasts Had Snow Hitting Further South**



Spring Outlook

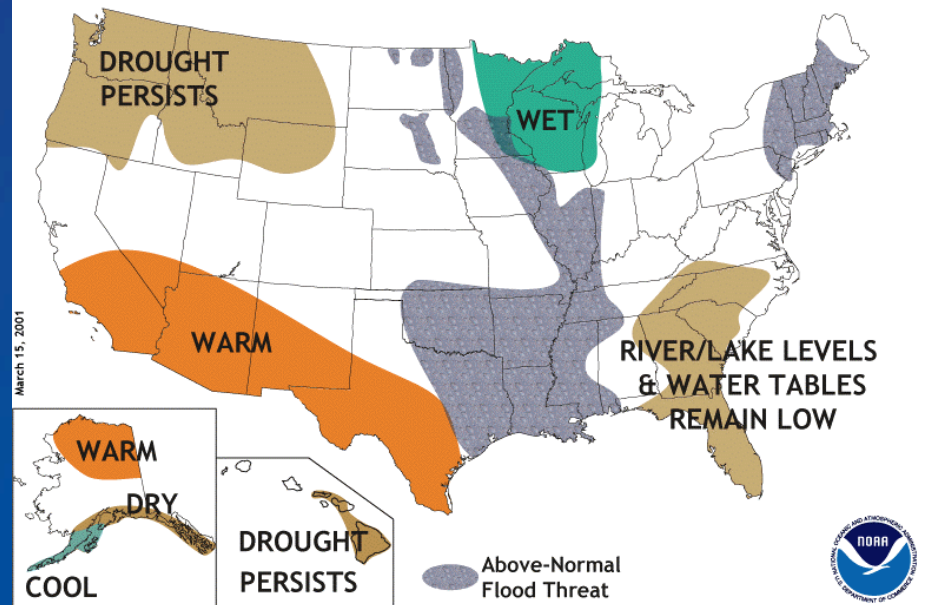
Potential Concerns

- Drought in NW and water shortages in the SE will linger despite spring rains
- Winter snow storms in NE and Midwest set stage for potential flooding

Verification

- Drought persists in NW despite above normal precip in April
- Drought in SE remains causing water levels to remain low
- Less Rain in New England than Forecasted

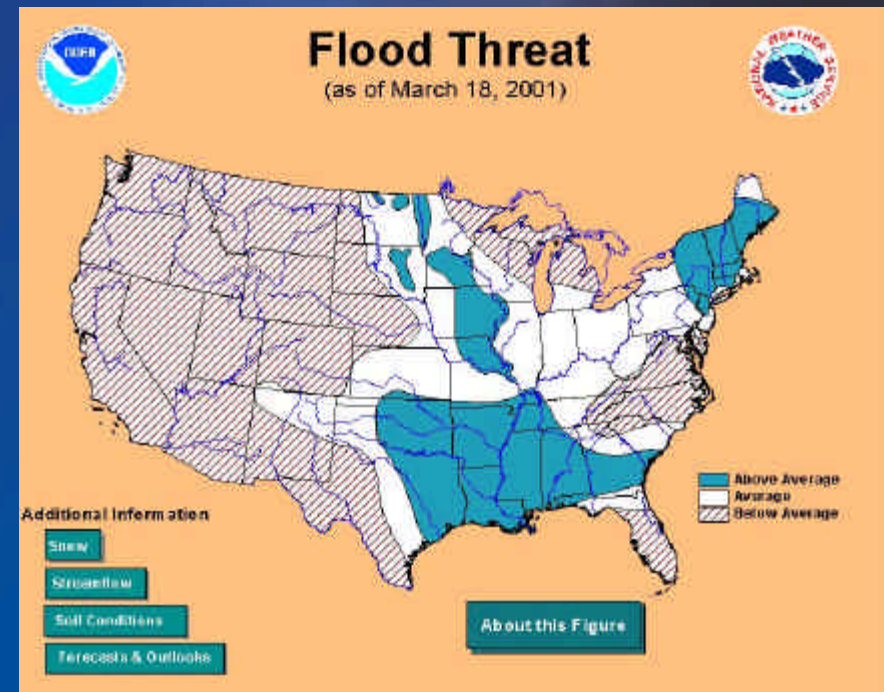
Spring Outlook (April - June 2001)



Spring Flood Forecast

Spring Flood Forecast

- Identified significant flooding in Midwest including major flooding on Red, James, Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers
- Limited flooding in Northeast, despite snow 200-350% of normal
- Threat identified in South due to wet conditions that followed significant earlier flooding, however no further serious flooding in South



NWS Received Straight A's

“After a stormy 10-year modernization, the National Weather Service is reaping the benefits of new technology, better facilities and a restructured workforce.”

- 1st Ever to Receive All A's
- Total of 27 Agencies Evaluated



2001 REPORT CARD	Agency Grade	Managing for Results	Financial Management	Human Resources Management	Information Management	Physical Assets Management	
National Weather Service	A	A	A	A	A	A	Results-focused management coordinated throughout agency and across functions to achieve mission success.
Postal Service	A-	A	A	C	B	A	Management is focused on results and coordinated throughout agency, but hampered by serious problems with human resources and communications.
Administration for Children and Families	B	B	B	B	B	N/A	Agency with strong service ethos rising to the challenge of managing for results in a devolved, welfare reform environment.
NASA	B	B	C	B	B	B	Strong "cando" culture aimed at technical excellence is marred by weakness in mission definition and measurement of outcomes.
Bureau of Consular Affairs	C	C	C	C	B	N/A	Agency benefited from inspired leadership and increased funding, but lacks systematic practices needed to sustain momentum.
Forest Service	C	C	D	B	C	C	Conflicting missions and decentralized systems have created systemic weaknesses that management is committed to addressing.
Bureau of Indian Affairs	D	D	C	C	D	D	Long-standing management deficiencies acknowledged, but improvements difficult and slow in high pressure/low resource environment.

Congressional Staff WFO Visit

- House Appropriations Staff Visited on March 9, 2001
- House Science Committee Staff Visited on March 23
- Briefed on:
 - *Radiosonde*
 - *AWIPS Build 5.0*
 - *CO-OP network*
 - *AHPS*
 - *Role of the NWS*



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Meteorologist Training

- **1st Intern is from Fiji**
- **Began February 2001**
- **2 Month Internship at Honolulu WFO**



Agreement with Vietnam

- Agreement signed January 9, 2001
- US and Vietnam Expect To:
 - *Improve Quality of Forecasts through Training*
 - *Transfer Technology and Assistance with Vietnam's Modernization Effort*
 - *Better Understand Role of Regional Meteorology on Global Weather*
 - *Support Collection, Sharing, and Analysis of Data*

